The information is being collected and to the extent available and permissible under the rules will be laid on the Table of the House.

Remuneration of Marathi films and Marathi Film songs

2729. SHRI PRAOMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to increase the remuneration of Marathi films and Marathi film songs telecast from Bombay Doordarshan has virtually become Maharashtra Doordarshan;

(b) if so what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor when the number of viewers has increased by millions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c) The rates for all regional films including those in Marathi telecast from regional stations were revised in July 1986 with effect from October 1, 1985. At that time due consideration was given to the additional transmitters to be linked with main regional stations for relaying feature films. There is therefore no proposal at present to increase the royalty rates for telecast of Marathi feature films. There is also at present no proposal to increase the rates for telecast of Marathi film songs from DDK, Bombay.

Income tax on GPF withdrawals

2730. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that withdrawals from the General Provident Fund by the Central Government employees are taxable under the category of income;

(b) if so the details in this regard; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Closure of Rajasthan atomic power station

2731. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 367 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th November, 1986 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken to solve the problems affecting Unit-I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station and what has been the expenditure incurred hitherto;

(b) whether Government have taken a final decision regarding closure of otherwise of this unit; and

(c) what would be the cost of such decommissioning of this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) and (b) A group of experts from the Department of Atomic Energy has examined alternative approaches for rehabilitation of Unit-I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station. In the short term, sealing the new cracks in the south end shield employing a method similar to the one used earlier appears feasible and may permit operating the unit at a reduced power level. However, there is some uncertainty regarding reliable long term operation with this method. Replacement of both the end shields may be a long term solution for rehabilitation of the unit. The cost benefit aspects of this alternative are being examined. The amount spent